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Title: Need to provide Central aid to unaided Government recognized schools in Assam.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (LAKHIMPUR): Sir, attention of the Government is drawn towards large number of Non-provincialised, unaided but Government recognized schools and colleges in Assam, which covers nearly 50% of the total formal education in the State. At present 8587 nos. of Lower Primary (LP), 4638 nos. of Middle English (M.E.), 1825 nos. of High schools including Madrassas and High Madrassas along with 133 nos. of recognized Colleges in Assam are established and run by public through the Government approved Managing Committees. They are also regularly inspected by the Inspector of schools and by University authorities. These institutions are located in rural areas and run by Community effort without imposing Tuition fee unlike the commercial Private institutes. As such they are also referred as 'Venture' Schools and Colleges peculiar to Assam only.

Unfortunately, about One laky teachers and employees of these institutes are rendering education for decades without getting any kind of grant or aid from Central or State Government for infrastructure, salary, etc. They are imparting education at par with any other provincialised or Government Institutions. Owing to financial constraint of Assam Government, the Union Government also deprives these unaided institutions from Central Grants categorizing them as private Institutes.

I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to evolve a suitable mechanism to fund these institutes, as they constitute almost half of the formal education in Assam. If necessary, special provisions should be made by changing the existing norms of the Central Government considering the long-term contribution of these institutions in supplementing the Government efforts towards-education for all.

MR. SPEAKER: Today, after a long time, we have invited the hon. Members to read out their Matters under Rule 377. But the Matters under Rule 377 of those hon. Members, who are not present, will also be placed on the Table of the House. They will be treated as laid on the Table.